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Research Note

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X PULPWOOD PRODUCTION IN IDAHO AND MONTANA, 1954 X

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More than 148 thousand cords of pulpwood were produced in Idaho and Montana during 1954. Of this total, 61 percent came from North Idaho,^{1/} 35 percent from Montana, and the remaining 4 percent from South Idaho.^{1/}

The pulpwood harvest in North Idaho and Montana was ^{down} 86,777 cords, or 38 percent less than that of 1952, the last year a survey was made of pulpwood production. This decrease was due to a drop of more than 92 thousand cords in shipments of pulpwood out of Eastern Montana^{2/} to Lake States mills. This loss was partially offset by increases in production in North Idaho and Western Montana of 3 percent and 26 percent, respectively.

Pulpwood began moving out of South Idaho in 1953. During 1954 production from this area amounted to 5,447 cords.

Accurate data by species are not available for North Idaho. The cut for this area is estimated to be mostly white fir and western hemlock. All of the cut from South Idaho and Eastern Montana was lodgepole pine. The cut in Western Montana in 1954 was spruce taken from the large salvage cuttings in that area.

The following table shows the distribution of production of pulpwood in 1954, together with the net change of production (in percentage) since 1952.

Area	Pulpwood harvested 1954		Change from 1952
	Cords	Percent of total	Percent
<u>Idaho</u>			
North	90,458	61	+3
South	5,447	4	-
<u>Montana</u>			
Eastern	36,060	24	-72
Western	16,115	11	+26
Total	148,080	100	1/-

^{1/} Totals for 1952 and 1954 are not comparable because the 1952 survey covered only North Idaho.

^{1/} The division between North and South Idaho is the Salmon River.

^{2/} The division between Eastern and Western Montana is the Continental Divide.

(over)

Accuracy of survey. Data presented in this note are based on a survey of all plants within the region using pulpwood plus reports from all transportation companies hauling pulpwood out of the region.